THE

EIGHTH VOLUME

OF

OBSERVATORS,

FROM

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THE

PREFACE.

THE *Tranſactions of* 1709, *eſpecially as to the military Part, have been ſo conſiderable, and the Conſequences are like to be of ſuch Importance, that occaſional Reflexions upon them, may not only be uſeful for the preſent, but for Time to come; which, 'tis hop'd, may make this Volume of* Obſervators *as acceptable as the former.*

When the laſt was finiſh'd, the French *King offer'd, or rather begg'd for a Treaty of Peace, and impower'd his chief Miniſter to agree to the Preliminary Articles; which he afterwards would not ratify. This occaſion'd the Articles themſelves to be conſider'd in this Paper; where 'tis not only prov'd that they are reaſonable, but alſo that the Allies had very good Ground to have inſiſted upon more; and that we in* Great Britain *had particular Reaſon to have demanded a farther Security both for the Proteſtant Succeſſion, the Reſtoration of all our Plantations, and a better Tariff for Trade, than we formerly had with* France. *'Tis alſo conſider'd in this Volume, whether we can promiſe a ſolid and laſting Peace to our ſelves, and the reſt of* Europe, *while ſo great a Nation as that of* France, *continues under an arbitrary and deſpotical Power; and whether we ought not to inſiſt upon having the States of* France *reſtor'd to their ancient Priviledges, and made Guarrantees of the Treaty, as they have formerly been in other Caſes, with Power to compel their King to obſerve it; and whether the Proteſtants ought not to be reſtor'd to their Liberty, according to the Edict of* Nantz, *under the Guarrantee of the Proteſtant Maritime Powers. Of what Uſe theſe Hints may be to thoſe who are concern'd to underſtand the Intereſt of* Great Britain *in particular, or that of* Europe *in general, is eaſy to be judg'd.*

In order likewiſe to ſet the Danger of treating with the French *King, without very good Security for his Performance, in a clear Light, there's here a brief Account of the ancient and modern Treachery of that Nation, and of their Kings, and particularly of* Lewis *the XIVth from his Infancy, with Inſtances how the* French *have formerly out-witted us, and their other Neighbours, in Treaties, and of the Methods they took to do it.*

Then

The PREFACE.

Then, as to the Tranſactions at Home, it will readily appear by the Contents, of what Uſe the Hints given here may be, both as to publick Grievances, and the unhappy Diviſions that are ſo induſtriouſly fomented among us by a reſtleſs Faction, Men of arbitrary Principles, who formerly brought Popery and Slavery upon us, and do openly purſue the ſame Meaſures again, to bring us under a Popiſh Prince, and a French *Government.*

Among other Things, the Reader will here meet with Reflexions upon the Pamphlets and Sermons publiſh'd and preach'd by the Faction, to poyſon the Nation, and particularly on thoſe of Dr. Sacheverell, *with a Juſtification of the Parliamentary Proceedings againſt him.*

Other Matters of publick Concern relating to Trade and Commerce in ſeveral of its moſt important Branches, are alſo diſcours'd upon, with Methods how to employ our Poor ; *and there are Reflexions which may be of conſtant Uſe againſt Bribery and Frauds in publick Offices, againſt Foreſtallers, Regraters, Ingroſſers, and others, to heighten and keep up the Price of Bread. The Cruelty of Creditors to poor Debtors, is alſo taken Notice of, with Hints how it may be prevented, and they and our other Poor employ'd to the publick Advantage. 'Tis needleſs to ſay any more by Way of* Preface ; *for the Alphabetical Index annex'd, is ſo copious, that any one may readily turn to what Head he wants.*

THE

THE CONTENTS

Of the Eighth VOLUME of the OBSERVATOR.

A

ACres of Land, how many in *Britain* and *Ireland*, and how proportion'd to the People, 46
African Trade, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15
Allies, the Slackneſs of ſome of 'em, 66, 76
What Terms they may demand of *France*, 38, 40, 50, 57, 59, 60
Ambaſſadors Priviledges, 7
America, 7
Arbitrary Power, 13, 56
Arbitrary Principles, Growth of 'em, 49, 85
Anjou, Duke, 57, 62
Annecy, in *Savoy*, 61
Athanaſius damn'd by the High-flyers, 96
Auſtria, Houſe of, 17, 21, 23, 62

B

BAkers, 49, 86, 99
Beggars, 73
Biſhops, the Opinion of the ancient Church of *England*, the State, and Reformers, about 'em, 1, 2
Bread, Aſſize, and Price, *&c.* 68, 86, 94, 98, 99
Bribery in Treaties, Parliaments, *&c.* 18, 48, 52
Briefs, Frauds in collecting them, 47

C

CAmpaign in the *Netherlands*, 76
Catalonia, 4, 11
Charles the Iſt, his Murder unjuſtly charg'd on Whigs, Diſſenters, and the Nation, 3
Charles the IId, 20
Charles the IIId of *Spain*, 7
Church of *England* Clergy, 3
Church's Danger, 71, 77, 78
Her 20th Article interpolated, 88
Church and State ſlande'rd, 81
Clergy fit to be viſited, 93, 96
Commines, *Philip*, 18
Conſtables ought to be ſupported in the Execution of their Office, 15
Conſtitution, how ſupported by our Anceſtors, 20
Corn, exporting of it, 68. Foreſtalling, 49, 69, 75, 89
Crawley, Sir *Ambroſe*, 68, 69
Creditors Cruelty to their Debtors, 68
Czar's Son, 64

D

DEbtors, poor, 68, 72
Declaration of the Allies, if they enter *France*, 37, 61
Dent, Conſtable, murther'd, 15, 20
Deputy Lieutenants, their ill Practices about the Militia, 2
Diſſenters perſecuted in *Ireland*, 75. Slander'd in *England*, 78
Dutch, 22
Dyer's Letter, 20, 36

E

EDwards, Doctor, his Sermon, 93
Elections, Freedom of 'em, 85
Elijah's firſt Appearance, a blaſphemous Pamphlet, 83
Emperor, 4, 50, 53
Engliſh outwitted and brib'd by the *French* in Treaties, 18, 20
Exeter, a virulent Sermon there on the 31ſt of *January*, 3

F

FAvourites, Miſchief done by them, 20
Fleet, 4, 5, 28, 64
Flanders, 44, 45
Fiſhery, 30, 58
Foreſtallers, 74
France oppreſs'd, 19. Inſurrections there, 45. Her ill State, 21, 30, 57. May be invaded in *Poitou*, 37. Her low Condition no Security againſt a future War, 40. States of it made Guarrantees of Treaties, with Power to oblige her Kings to obſerve them, 40
French Privateers and Cruiſers, 5. Preparations at *Dunkirk*, 14. Their King ought to be reduc'd to a limited Power, 14, 19, 21, 23, 29, 40. Uſually outwit the *Engliſh* in Treaties, 18, 20, 59
French King's Poſterity bred up in Principles of Treachery, 29. Reaſons why the *French* have not revolted, 19, 37. *French* King, a blaſphemous Dedication to him, 35. Refuſes the Preliminaries, 36. Juſtly puniſh'd, 61. His Hypocriſy, 62. *French* Matches and Miſſes, 61. *French* defeated in *Flanders*, 62, 63, 64, 65. Poem on it, 70

The CONTENTS, &c.

G

GAming Ministers of State, 11
Germany, and a false Allarm of *German* Tyranny, 17, 21, 76

H

Hannover, 14, 61
High-Ways, 73
Hoadly, Mr. 92
Holland and *England* compar'd, as to People, 8

I

Jacobites, 1, 37, 38, 65, 70, 71, 74, 75
James the IId, 30
Immorality and Prophaneness, 27
Impeachment against Dr. *Sacheverell*, 100
Informers against Vice justify'd, 81
Invasion from *France*, 6
Ipres, 56
Ireland, 31, 36, 54, 62
Italy, 4

K

LAnd-Tax deficient by the Fraud of Assessors, 52
Laudean Faction, 31, 88, 90
Levies, how they may be more easy, 12
Lewis the XIth brib'd our King, Court, and Commons, 41
Lewis the XIVth's Treachery, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 36, 37, 56, 60. His Manifesto for refusing the Preliminaries, 40. His arrogant Statue, 41, 76. Like *Pharoah*, 44
Lieutenancy wants Regulation, 2
Lottery publick, 97

M

MAgistrates, Corruption in electing them, 69
Manwaring, Dr. 89, 91
May-Fair, 27
Meal-men, 86
Mercy, Count, defeated by the *French*, 62
Militia and Musters, Abuses in 'em, 2
Ministers, Great, dangerous, 18
Monarchy universal, Vanity of it, 13, 41
Mons, Battel and Siege, 61, 62, 64, 71, 74
Mournings general, when long, hinder Trade, 80, 88, 89

N

Naples, 16
Naturalization Act, 8, 9, 11, 13, 41, 42, 46, 55
Navigation, Navy-Royal, 46
Newfoundland, 5, 25, 26, 27, 30, 34
News, false, 49
North, War there, 79
Northampton, odd Worship there, 98
Nova Scotia, 30, 33, 34

O

ORford, Earl, 84

P

PAlatines, 39, 40, 41, 42, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 52, 54, 63, 68, 74, 94
Papists, 1, 53
Parliaments Power, in Peace and War, 12. Brib'd, 18, 20, 25. Concur to support the War, 84, 85, 89
Parker's Ephemeris, 98
Partition-Treaty 22
Passive-Obedience, 71, 100
Pawn-Brokers, 68, 70
Peace, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41, 50, 58, 59, 79
People of *England* and *Israel* compar'd as to Number, 47. Their Annual Increase and Decrease, 55
Play-Houses, 41, 43, 51, 66, 67, 71
Pope, 4, 23, 79
Popish Successor, 39
Portugal, 4, 11, 32, 76
Poor, 42, 45, 52, 58, 68, 72, 73, 80. Poor Prisoners, 92
Press, Liberty of it, 78
Presentations to Churches by Papists, 93
Pressing Men against God's Law, 12
Pretender's Courage, 71
Princes, the ill Consequence of their being Weak, and trusting all to Ministers, 18
Prophets, new, 26
Protestants, *French*, ought to be restor'd, 23, 35, 36. Betray'd by Tories, 45. Persecuted, 50. Our Government might be the Head of all foreign Protestants, 53, 62

Q

QUeen, her Answer about a Peace, 11, 12. Reflected on by the High-flyers, 71, 77, 78. Her Care of the Poor, 84. Of the Allies, 84, 87

S

SAcheverell, 81, 82, 83, 85, 86, 87, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 96, 100
Sacramental Test, 31
Sail-Cloth, 94
Sarum, Bishop of, 90
St. *Christophers*, 33
Savoy, 50, 56, 64
Schism, 82
Scots, and *Scotland*, 5, 6, 7, 11, 14, 65
Sea-men, 4, 64
Sicily, 16
Silesia, Persecution there, 53
Silk-Weavers, 86, 87. Silk-Trade, 85
Sommers, Lord, 33
Spain, 22, 25
Sundays Mask at *Whitehall*, 51
Surry and *Sussex*, Treachery there, 1, 49
Sweden, King of, 53, 56, 64

T

TAx-Gatherers of *Westminster*, their Fraud, 48
Tobacco-Trade, 30, 31, 32, 34
Toleration, 77, 83
Tournay, 45, 50, 56, 57, 60, 61
Trade, 40, 45, 86
Treachery of *France*, of old and late, 59
Treaties of Peace commonly Markets, 58, 59
Turenne, Marescal, his insolent Monument, 79

U

UNION, 5, 6, 8
University fit to be visited, 93, 96
Vagabonds and Vagrants numerous, 47, 72

W

WEst-*Indies*, 22, 25, 40
Wharton, Earl, 31, 75
Window-Tax, 97
Women Favourites, 5
Wooll-Trades, and Woollen Manufactures, 1, 94

THE